

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA

DAMIENE LEWIS,

Civil No. 10-3082 (PJS/FLN)

Plaintiff,

v.

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
BUREAU OF PRISONS, and
P.A. SULLIVAN,

Defendants.

This matter is before the undersigned United States Magistrate Judge on Plaintiff's application for leave to proceed in forma pauperis, ("IFP"), pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915. (Docket No. 2.) The matter has been referred to this Court for report and recommendation under 28 U.S.C. § 636 and Local Rule 72.1. For the reasons discussed below, it is recommended that Plaintiff's IFP application be denied, and that this action be dismissed without prejudice.

Plaintiff, a federal prison inmate, commenced this action by filing a complaint seeking relief for personal injuries that he allegedly suffered during his confinement. He did not pay the \$350 filing fee required by 28 U.S.C. § 1914, but instead applied for leave to proceed IFP. The Court previously reviewed Plaintiff's IFP application, and noted that (i) the application was incomplete, because it did not include the current certified prisoner trust account information that is required by 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a)(2), and (ii) Plaintiff did not pay the initial partial filing fee that is required in prisoner IFP actions pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(1).

Both of Plaintiff's omissions were called to his attention by this Court's order dated August 2, 2010. (Docket No. 6.) That order gave Plaintiff twenty (20) days to cure the two defects in his original request for IFP status, by submitting both (a) a new IFP application with the requisite certified trust account information, and (b) the initial partial filing fee prescribed by § 1915(b)(1). The order expressly advised Plaintiff that his case would be subject to summary dismissal, unless he complied with both of those requirements within the time allowed.

The deadline for satisfying the requirements of the Court's prior order has now expired. To date, however, Plaintiff has not submitted either an amended IFP application or an initial partial filing fee, nor has he offered any excuse for his failure to do so. Indeed, Plaintiff has not communicated with the Court at all since he commenced this action. Therefore, based on the Court's express warning regarding the consequences that would follow if Plaintiff failed to comply with the requirements of the prior order, it is now recommended that Plaintiff be deemed to have abandoned this action, and that the action be summarily dismissed without prejudice. See Fed. R. Civ. P. 41(b) (actions may be dismissed for failure to comply with court orders). See also In re Smith, 114 F.3d 1247, 1251 (D.C.Cir. 1997) (failure to submit financial information required by § 1915(a)(2) or initial partial filing fee required by § 1915(b)(1) "may result in dismissal of a prisoner's action"); Amick v. Ashlock, No. 04-1171 (8th Cir. 2004), 2004 WL 2603590 (unpublished opinion) (prisoner lawsuit can properly be dismissed where prisoner fails to pay initial partial filing fee as ordered); Henderson v. Renaissance Grand Hotel, 267 Fed.Appx. 496, 497 (8th Cir. 2008) (unpublished opinion) ("[a] district court has discretion to dismiss an action under Rule 41(b) for a plaintiff's failure to prosecute, or to comply with the Federal Rules of Civil

Procedure or any court order”); Link v. Wabash Railroad Co., 370 U.S. 626, 630-31 (1962) (recognizing that a federal court has the inherent authority to “manage [its] own affairs so as to achieve the orderly and expeditious disposition of cases”).

Finally, the Court notes that Plaintiff has filed a motion for appointment of counsel in this case. Having determined that this action should be summarily dismissed for failure to prosecute, the Court recommends that Plaintiff’s motion for appointment of counsel be summarily denied.

RECOMMENDATION

Based upon the above, and upon all the records and proceedings herein,

IT IS HEREBY RECOMMENDED that:

1. Plaintiff’s Motion to Proceed In Forma Pauperis, (Docket No. 3), be **DENIED**;
2. Plaintiff’s Motion For Appointment of Counsel, (Docket No. 2), be **DENIED**; and
3. This action be **DISMISSED WITHOUT PREJUDICE**.

Dated: September 23, 2010

s/ Franklin L. Noel
FRANKLIN L. NOEL
United States Magistrate Judge

Pursuant to the Local Rules, any party may object to this Report and Recommendation by filing with the Clerk of Court and serving on all parties, on or before **October 8, 2010**, written objections which specifically identify the portions of the proposed findings or recommendations to which objection is being made, and a brief in support thereof. A party may respond to the objecting party’s brief within ten days after service thereof. All briefs filed under the rules shall be limited to 3500 words. A judge shall make a de novo determination of those portions to which objection is made. This Report and Recommendation does not constitute an order or judgment of the District Court, and it is, therefore, not appealable to the Circuit Court of Appeals.